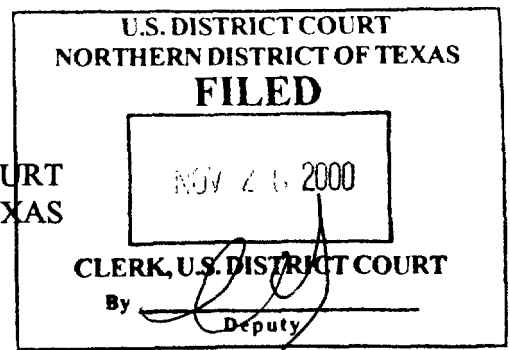


Handwritten initials and a date stamp: 11/16/00

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
DALLAS DIVISION



STEPHEN E. JONES, et al.,

Plaintiffs

VS.

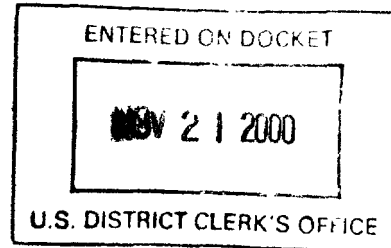
GOVERNOR GEORGE W. BUSH, et al.,

Defendants

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Civil Action No. 3:00-CV-2543-D

ORDER




Plaintiffs apply for an *ex parte* temporary restraining order to preclude the members of the Electoral College from Texas from casting any of their votes in favor of George W. Bush or Richard B. Cheney or from certifying that any of the votes can be cast in their favor. An *ex parte* temporary restraining order is granted only in extraordinary circumstances where the party seeking such relief will suffer immediate and irreparable injury not only by the failure to grant the temporary restraining order but by affording the restrained party advance knowledge that such relief is to be entered. That showing has not been made in this case. Accordingly, the court denies plaintiffs' request for an *ex parte* temporary restraining order.

Additionally, assuming that plaintiffs are correct on the merits of their claims, the court concludes that it can fully consider plaintiffs' application for a preliminary injunction before they will suffer irreparable harm. Under such circumstances, there is no need for a temporary restraining order and their application for this relief is denied.

Plaintiffs' request for authorization to serve the summons and complaint via the United States Marshal is denied without prejudice.

SO ORDERED.

November 20, 2000.



SIDNEY A. FITZWATER
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE